

In re Application of:
Short et al.
Application Serial No.: 09/848,651
Filed: May 3, 2001
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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: DIVER1280-12

REMARKS

Claims 1-14, 16 and 17 were pending in the instant application. By the present communication the Abstract and paragraphs 0026, 0027, 0029, 0040, 0069, 0088, 0148, 0192, 0197, 0211, 0227, and 0228 have been amended to correct minor typographical and editorial errors. In addition, claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 13 have been amended, and claim 6 has been canceled. The amendments to claims 4 and 5 reflect correction of editorial errors, which find support at paragraphs 0058, 0147, 0180, and 0183. The amendments add no new matter, being fully supported by the Specification and original claims. Accordingly, claims 1-5, 7-14, 16 and 17 are pending.

In accordance with the duty of candor, Applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to co-pending U.S. Application Serial No. 10/407,633, filed April 3, 2003, that contains substantially similar claims to those originally presented in the present application.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1, 7, 9, 13, 14, 16 and 17 as allegedly being obvious over Mendelsohn et al in view of Kornacker (USP 6,501,381). Applicant further respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1-3, 5, 7, 9, 13, 14, 16 and 17 as allegedly being obvious over Anderson et al (USP 5,968,738) in view of Young et al and Kornacker. However, in an attempt to expedite prosecution of the present application, Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claim 6, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection for alleged obviousness of amended claims 1-3, 5, 7, 9, 13, 14, 16 and 17 over the disclosures listed above.

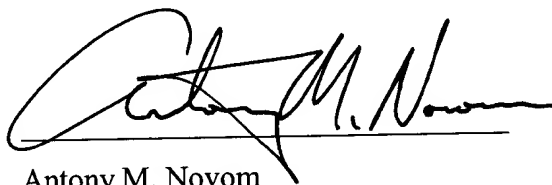
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In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and favorable action on claims 1-14, 16 and 17 are respectfully requested. If the Examiner would like to discuss any of the issues raised in the Office Action, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned so that a prompt disposition of this application can be achieved.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 11/3/03

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Antony M. Novom', written over a horizontal line.

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